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REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 18-22 were examined. Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1, 11, 20 and 21 are amended. Claim 22 is allowed. Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1, 4, 7-9, 11, 14-15 and 18-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,939,771) in view of Hanson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,740, 229). Claims 2-3, 5-6, 10, 12-13 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. in view of Hanson et al., and further in view of Dunn et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,169,795).

Applicant wishes to seek expeditious issuance of a patent containing claims directed to subject matter found allowable by the Patent Office. Claim 22 is allowed. Independent claims 1, 11, 20 and 21 have been amended to now recite elements of claim 22 found allowable by the Patent Office. As determined by the Patent Office, none of the cited references, Brown et al., Hanson et al. or Dunn et al., either alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest a system or method for providing an automated call connection as presently claimed in claims 1-16 and 18-22. Specifically, none of the cited references teach or suggest a server capable of immediately transferring the call back request from the first user input device to the second user output device while the first user input device awaits a result of the call back request, prompting the second user whether to call back the first user, and if the second user signals to the network connection to return the call, immediately and automatically attempting to connect the first user and the second user, wherein the server sends a message to the first user input device to instruct the first user to expect an imminent callback, as variously recited in claims 1, 11, 20 and 21.

Consequently, all claims currently presented for consideration (i.e., claims 1-16 and 18-22) are either allowed or have been amended to be placed in condition for allowance. However, Applicant does not acquiesce to the rejections of claims 1-16 and 18-21, and reserves the right to withdraw the present amendment should the Patent Office cite new grounds for rejection, and to present claims drawn to the same or similar subject matter for consideration in a continuing application.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the forgoing, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Issuance of the present application as a patent is therefore solicited.

Date:

15 August 05

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Respectfully submitted,

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